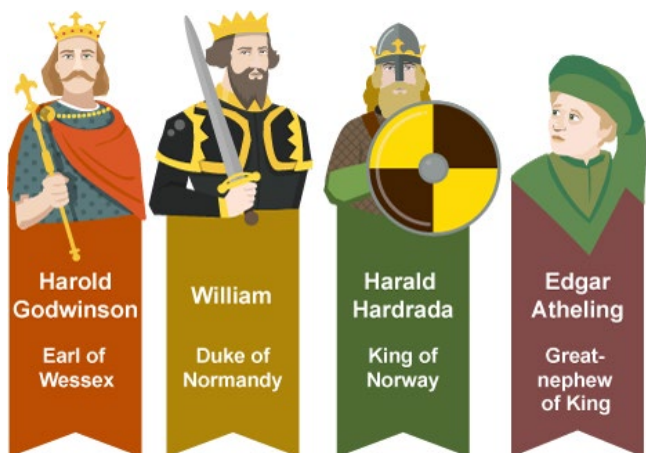




Your teacher will tell you which topic you should revise. Read and learn all the information in the topic, ready for a Quiz in lesson.

Topic 1: The 1066 Succession Crisis

Edward the Confessor died childless on 5th January 1066, leaving no direct heir to the throne. Four people all thought they had a legitimate right to be king.



in 1051.

Harold Godwinson's Claim

- Harold Godwinson was from Wessex, in England. Wessex was the largest kingdom in England and his claim would have been well supported by a large proportion of the English population.
- He was a wealthy nobleman, and it is claimed that Edward the Confessor named Godwinson as his successor on his deathbed.
- Harold Godwinson's sister, Edith, was married to Edward, making Harold the king's brother-in-law.

William Duke of Normandy

- William was a Duke who controlled Normandy, a large region in northern France. He was ambitious and powerful.
- He was an excellent military leader.
- William was a distant relative of Edward the Confessor and claimed Edward had promised him the throne

Harald Hardrada

- Harald Hardrada was a Viking and king of Norway.
- He was also a distant relative of King Cnut, who had previously been a king of England when the Vikings had invaded.
- Harald Hardrada also had the support of Tostig, who was Harold Godwinson's brother.

Edgar Atheling

- Edgar was the great-nephew of Edward the Confessor and was the last Anglo-Saxon prince alive after his father was killed in 1057



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Topic 2: During the battle

1. William's invasion fleet consisted of 700 ships and a large army. Although ready since August, strong winds had prevented William and his fleet from sailing until late September.
2. On September 29th, William landed at Pevensey Bay. A castle was built and his army raided the surrounding area.
3. King Harold marched south immediately after the Battle of Stamford Bridge. He left many of his foot soldiers behind and exhausted the others. Harold arrived after two weeks of constant marching.
4. The two sides met at Senlac Hill near Hastings. King Harold gathered his men at the top of the hill and they protected their position using a shield wall.
5. The battle began in the morning with the Norman knights firing arrows and horseback knights charging up the hill.
6. The battle continued for 2 hours before a rumour suggested that William had been killed. On hearing this news, Norman soldiers began to flee as they thought William had been killed. William took off his helmet to show them he was still alive.
7. The next part of the battle was in the afternoon. The Normans pretended to run away. The Saxons chased after them and broke their shield wall and control of the hill.
8. William used his well-equipped army to attack the housecarls and the fyrds.
9. Harold was killed. No one knows how he died but in the Bayeux Tapestry it has the words 'Harold is killed' next to a man with an arrow in his eye!
10. William, the Duke of Normandy became William the Conqueror, the King of England.





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Topic 3: Why did William the Conqueror win the Battle of Hastings?

There were various reasons why William the Conqueror won the Battle of Hastings. They can be categorised into 3 groups.

William's great leadership

One reason why William, the Duke of Normandy won the battle was because he was well prepared. William had prepared a strong army to fight against the English army. The Normans had knights on horsebacks who were skilful fighters. William was also skilful and ambitious, and he was determined to be King of England. In the Bayeux Tapestry, it shows William's army getting ready, embarking huge ships full of wood and supplies such as wine, weapons, and horses. There are also images of the knights in full battle armour riding out to war.

Harold's weaknesses

A reason why King Harold lost the battle might be because his army was not prepared. Some of his best fighters died at the Battle of Stamford Bridge and the rest of his army were tired out from the battle. In addition, the journey south to meet the Duke of Normandy's army had worn out Harold's troops. When they finally arrived in Hastings, William attacked before they were properly ready. The English held out for a while, but the Normans tricked them by pretending to retreat. This famous moment is called the "feigned retreat". The English army had followed them leaving their strong position on Senlac Hill. In the middle of the battle, Harold died, and his army became weak without their leader. There is evidence in the Bayeux Tapestry, which was written after the battle. It shows the details of the battle, including William's trick and the English on top of a hill.



Luck

Another reason to consider is William's luck and good fortune. The Normans managed to arrive early at Hastings because the wind changed. This allowed the Normans to build Motte and Bailey castles and raid local villages whilst Harold Godwinson was still fighting up North. This ensured that William was well settled and prepared for the war, in contrast to Harold Godwinson.





Vocabulary	Wider Research	Apply						
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) chronology 2) Anglo-Saxons 3) population 4) earldoms 5) earls 6) leader 7) claimant 8) heir 9) Witan 10) Armour 11) Threat 12) Judgement 13) Capabilities 14) Cavalry 15) Archers 16) Housecarls 17) Fyrd 18) Senlac Hill 19) Pevensey Bay 20) Accuracy 21) Consequences 22) Harold Godwinson 23) Harald Hadrada 24) Normandy 25) Duke of Normandy 26) Edgar Atheling 27) Tostig 28) Edward the Confessor 29) Bayeux Tapestry 30) 'feigned' retreat 	<p>Key Events</p> <p>https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/learn/1066-and-the-norman-conquest/what-happened-battle-hastings/</p> <p>Anglo Saxon history</p> <p>https://www.historic-uk.com/HistoryUK/HistoryofBritain/Invaders/</p> <p>Claimants to the English Throne</p> <p>https://schoolshistory.org.uk/topics/british-history/normans/claimants-throne-1066/</p> <p>Bayeux Tapestry</p> <p>http://www.bayeuxtapestry.org.uk/</p> <p>The Battle of Stamford Bridge</p> <p>https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zq9mv4j/revision/2</p> <p>Narration of the battle (Hastings 1066)</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oLy1LskT6Y8</p> <p>The Bayeux Tapestry</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F8OPQ_28mdo</p>	<p>Apply</p> <p>1. Create a history 'dictionary' using the key vocabulary. Find all the definitions and form a sentence</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1294 411 2123 598"> <thead> <tr> <th>Key Word</th> <th>Definition</th> <th>Form a sentence</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>2. Explain why William the Duke of Normandy had a stronger chance of winning the Battle of Hastings than Harold Godwinson.</p> <p><i>William had a stronger chance of winning the Battle of Hastings because</i></p> <p><i>For example ...</i></p> <p><i>Another example ...</i></p> <p><i>This gave him a better chance because ...</i></p> <div data-bbox="1657 869 2105 1093" data-label="Figure"> </div> <p>3. Create a timeline mapping out the key events of the Battle of Hastings. (Example image)</p> <p>4. Write a 'newspaper' article narrating what happened during the Battle of Hastings.</p>	Key Word	Definition	Form a sentence			
Key Word	Definition	Form a sentence						